Appendix_A

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-49. (Cancelled)

50.   (Currently Amended) A method of minimizing collisions in a CSMA/CA wireless data communication system using an access point, the method comprising:

sensing the presence of a client desirous of communication with the access point;

allocating a start time slot list having at least one unique start time slot during which the client may begin transmitting;

transmitting the start time slot list to the client; and

receiving a transmission from the client, the transmission beginning only during the start time slot(s) indicated by the start time slot list,

wherein allocating includes:

assigning in the start time slot list at least one pair of a high-priority start time slot and a low-priority start time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center start time slot.

51-52.   (Cancelled)

53.   (Previously Presented) A method of minimizing collisions in a CSMA/CA wireless data communication system using an access point, the method comprising:

sensing the presence of a client desirous of communication with the access point;

allocating a start time slot list having at least one unique start time slot during which the client may begin transmitting;

2   (SN: 10/760,024)

transmitting the start time slot list to the client; and

receiving a transmission from the client, the transmission beginning only during the start time slot(s) indicated by the start time slot list,

wherein the start time slot list includes a high-priority time slot and a low-priority time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center time slot.

54-56.   (Cancelled)

57.   (Previously Presented) A client for receiving the start time slot list of claim 53, the client selecting between the high-priority start time slot and the low-priority start time slot based on a randomizing function.

58-60.   (Cancelled)

61.   (Currently Amended) An access point that minimizes collisions in a CSMA/CA wireless data communication system, the access point comprising:

a client sensor for detecting the presence of a client desirous of communication with the access point;

a start time slot allocator for allocating a start time slot list having one or more unique start time slots during which the client may begin to transmit;

an access point transmitter for transmitting the start time slot list to a client receiver; and

an access point receiver for receiving a transmission from the client, the transmission being received only during the start time slot(s) indicated by the start time slot list,

wherein the start time slot allocator comprises:

(SN: 10/760,024)

a start time slot generator for generating at least one pair of a high-priority time slot and a low-priority start time slot in the start time slot list, the high-priority time slot and the low-priority start time slot substantially equally displaced in time from a center start time slot.

62-67.   (Cancelled)

4   (SN: 10/760,024)